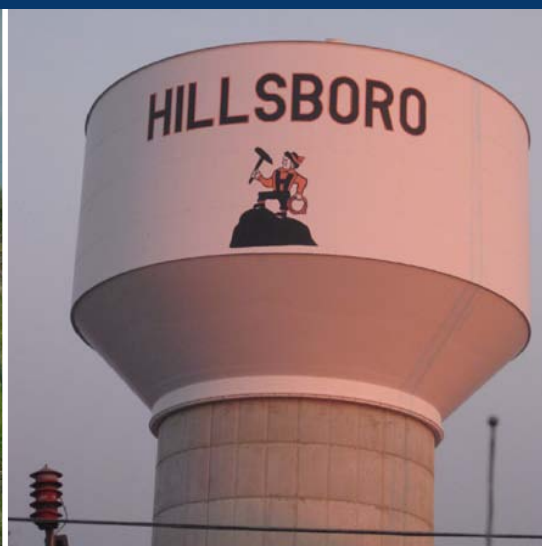




**U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency**

# Community Involvement Plan

Eagle Zinc Company Site  
Hillsboro, Illinois



May 2011

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# 1. Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prepared this **Community Involvement Plan (CIP)** for the Eagle Zinc Company **Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act Superfund** site in the city and township of Hillsboro, Montgomery County, Illinois. This CIP was created to make sure the **community's** current concerns and information needs are considered as site activities progress. Words appearing in **bold** are defined in Appendix A.

This CIP was prepared to support environmental investigation and cleanup activities at the site. It reflects community concerns, questions, and information needs as expressed during interviews conducted in May 2002, and July and November 2010. It also describes the EPA's plan for addressing the community's concerns and keeping residents informed and involved in decisions regarding the site cleanup and reuse of the property after the cleanup. This CIP is a working document that will evolve based on input from the community and as the investigation and cleanup process continues; it is intended to be flexible, adaptable and used as a guideline for the EPA's communication with the public.

The objective of **community involvement** is to involve the **public** in activities and decisions related to the investigation and cleanup of **hazardous waste** sites. The community engagement program promotes communication between members of the public and the EPA. The EPA has learned that its decision-making ability is enhanced by actively soliciting comments and information from the public. Public input can be useful in two ways:

- Communities provide valuable information on local history, resident involvement, and site conditions.
- By expressing its concerns, the community assists the EPA in developing a response that more effectively addresses the community's needs.



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## 1.1 Why Community Engagement is Important for Superfund Cleanups

Communities should be involved in all phases of the cleanup so that contamination is found and addressed in a way that protects people and the environment – now and in the future. Communities need to provide input on how the cleanup will be conducted, and understand how it may affect community plans and goals.

Community members, former employees, and local government officials may be able to provide valuable information about a hazardous waste site that can help the EPA determine the best way to clean it up. Local information can help determine the location of contamination, how people may be exposed to the contamination, and how the land may be used after it is cleaned up. If contamination will be managed at the site for long periods of time, the communities and local governments need to be consulted about how to apply institutional controls to prevent human exposures. Community members also may be able to provide information that will help monitor the effectiveness of the cleanup over the long-term such as reporting trespassing, flooding, odors or other unusual conditions.



## 1.2 Purpose of this CIP

The EPA will use this document to guide its efforts to involve and communicate with residents and businesses in the Hillsboro area. The EPA's goal is to engage in communication and keep the concerns and interests of local residents at the forefront as site cleanup efforts progress.

The EPA is releasing this document to the public to help guide the communication with citizens and other interested stakeholders. If you have comments or questions about this plan, please contact:

Ginny Narsete  
**Community Involvement Coordinator**  
EPA Region 5 (SI-7J)  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590  
Phone: 312-886-4359 or  
800-621-8431 ext. 64359  
[narsete.virginia@epa.gov](mailto:narsete.virginia@epa.gov)

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## 1.3 CIP Overview

This CIP contains the following sections:

- **Section 1—Introduction:** Describes the purpose and intended uses of this CIP.
- **Section 2—Community Engagement and the Superfund Process:** Provides an overview of the step-by-step process the EPA follows to determine the best way to clean up a contaminated site and opportunities for community involvement throughout the process.
- **Section 3—Eagle Zinc Company Site Background:** Provides background information about the site's location and history.
- **Section 4—Community Background:** Profiles the economic and ethnic makeup of the community and summarizes the community's history and past involvement at the site.
- **Section 5—Detailed Summary of Community Interviews** Provides a summary of what interviewees told EPA about the Eagle Zinc Company Site. See "What the EPA Heard About the Site" on Page 5-4 for interesting things people said about the site.
- **Section 6—Community Concerns and Questions:** Presents information obtained from local residents during community interviews conducted in July and November 2010.
- **Section 7—Comments from the Kids:** Shares the opinions and concerns of Hillsboro students about the Eagle Zinc Company Site.
- **Section 8—The EPA's Community Involvement Goals:** Describes the EPA's plans and timeline for conducting site-specific activities to keep residents informed and involved during site cleanup activities.
- **Appendix A—Glossary:** Provides definitions of key words.
- **Appendix B—Site Information Repository, Administrative Record, and Public Meeting Locations:** Identifies places where community members can find more information on activities at the Eagle Zinc site.
- **Appendix C—List of Contacts and Interested Groups:** Provides a list of federal, state and local agencies, and community and environmental organizations.
- **Appendix D—List of Fact Sheets:** Lists fact sheets that the EPA has created and distributed to local residents to explain planned and ongoing site activities.
- **Appendix E—List of Interview Questions:** Provides the list of questions the EPA asked during interviews with local residents in July and November 2010.





## 2. Community Engagement and the Superfund Process

There are several steps involved in cleaning up a polluted site. Once a polluted or potentially polluted site has been reported to the EPA by individual citizens, state agencies, or others, the EPA follows a step-by-step process to determine the best way to clean up the site and protect human health and the environment. Opportunities for community involvement occur throughout the process, which is shown in Exhibit 1 below and described further in this section.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE  
EPA'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
AND SUPERFUND PROCESS  
PLEASE SEE:

[http://www.epa.gov/oswer/  
engagementinitiative/cleanup.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/cleanup.htm)

EXHIBIT 1  
*The Superfund Process*





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## 2.1 Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection

The preliminary assessment involves gathering historical and other available information about site conditions to evaluate whether the site poses a threat to people and the environment and whether further investigation is needed. The site inspection tests air, water, and soil at the site to determine what hazardous substances are present and whether they are being released to the environment and are a threat to people's health.

Depending on the situation the EPA may meet with local officials and opinion leaders, communicate potential risks and potential cleanup options to the public, conduct community interviews, prepare a CIP, establish an information repository, release a public notice to local media outlets, and designate the EPA Community Involvement Coordinator CIC. In addition, the community can provide any information it has about the site to the EPA.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement during PA/SI**

- Provide any information you have about the site to the EPA

## 2.2 Placement on the National Priorities List

The National Priorities List includes the most serious sites identified for long-term cleanup. When the EPA proposes to add a site to the National Priorities List, the Agency publishes a public notice about its intention in the Federal Register and issues a public notice through the local media to notify the community, so interested members of the community can comment on the proposal. The EPA then responds to comments received. If, after the formal comment period, the site still qualifies for cleanup under Superfund, it is formally listed on the National Priorities List. Once it is listed, the Agency will publish a notice in the Federal Register and respond formally to comments received. In addition, the EPA may issue a fact sheet or flyer to notify the community impacted by the site.

When the EPA proposes to add a site to the National Priorities List, the Agency publishes a public notice in the Federal Register about its intention to propose the site and issues a public notice through the local media to notify the community. Members of the community can comment on the proposal. The EPA then responds to comments received. The EPA then will announce its final decision to list the site in the Federal Register.

After a site is added to the National Priorities List and the final rule is published in the Federal Register, the EPA is required to conduct community interviews, finalize a formal CIP like this one, establish and maintain an information repository and issue a public notice, establish the Administrative Record, and publish a public notice of availability of Technical Assistance Grants. In addition, the EPA may also, develop fact sheets on the site to inform the community about activities at the site.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement during National Priorities List Listing Process**

- Read information about the site and the EPA's proposal to list the site on the NPL.
- Contact the EPA to ask question or request additional information.
- If you have concerns about the site listing, prepare and submit comments on the proposal during the public comment period.

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## 2.3 Study of Contamination on the Site and Possible Cleanup Options (Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study)

The RI/FS phase of the process determines the nature and extent of contamination at the site, tests whether certain technologies are capable of treating the contamination, and evaluates the cost and performance of technologies that could be used to clean up the site.

Prior to the beginning of the RI/FS phase, the EPA will begin its outreach and community involvement efforts at the site. The Agency will appoint a CIC for the site who will work with community members throughout the cleanup process. The EPA staff will interview community members, local officials, and others to gather information about the site and the community and to learn how community members want to be involved in the cleanup process. The Agency then will prepare a CIP that specifies the outreach activities they will use to address the concerns and expectations community members raised in the interviews. The CIP is readily available to the community.

The EPA will establish an information repository at or near the site where all correspondence, reports, and documents pertaining to the site cleanup will be stored and available to community members. In addition, the EPA will issue public notices and other documents to communicate important information about the cleanup, including the potential availability of a Technical Assistance Grant or other assistance resources to help the community understand technical information about the cleanup to better participate in decisions affecting the cleanup.

The EPA will establish an Administrative Record for the site as part of the information repository when the RI/FS begins. The Agency will issue a public notice through the local media to notify the community about the Administrative Record. As the cleanup process moves forward, the EPA will add to the Administrative Record all the relevant documents used in making the eventual cleanup decision, as well as relevant documents on technologies that were considered but ultimately rejected.

To keep the community informed during this phase of the cleanup, the EPA will issue public notices through the local media and conduct public meetings.

Based on results of the feasibility study portion of this phase, the EPA will develop a proposed plan for cleaning up the site. The Agency will issue a public notice through the local media to notify the community, so interested members of the community can comment on the proposed plan. In addition, the Agency may hold a public meeting to discuss the proposed plan. The EPA then will develop a responsiveness summary to formally respond to public comments received. If, based on public comments, the proposed plan is changed substantially, the EPA will issue an explanation of the changes made and invite public comment on the changes.

Throughout this phase of the cleanup, the EPA community involvement staff will be working to keep the community informed of progress by conducting public meetings, issuing regular fact sheets about progress at the site, conducting workshops for community groups, and making presentations to civic groups, schools, and local officials to help everyone better understand the cleanup process.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement during the RI/FS**

- Ask the CIC or the Remedial Project Manager questions about the site.
- Read the EPA's proposed plan for cleaning up the site.
- Consider whether to form a Community Advisory Group.

- 
- Consider whether your community group should apply for a TAG.
  - Consider whether your community should request help through the EPA's Technical Assistance Services for Communities contract.
  - Participate in any public meetings or other the EPA events on the proposed plan; ask questions; and provide comments on plans for cleanup and on the reuse options being considered for the site.
  - If you can't attend public meetings or other events, visit the information repository and read the proposed plan and other documents. Prepare and send any comments you have to the EPA.
  - Read the EPA's responsiveness summary to find out how the Agency plans to address major concerns raised in community members' comments.
  - Invite the EPA to attend community events to discuss the site and the proposed plan.

## **2.4 Preferred Alternative / Cleanup Plan**

The preferred alternative for a site is presented to the public in a proposed plan which is prepared by the EPA. The proposed plan briefly summarizes the alternatives studied in the detailed analysis phase of the RI/FS, highlighting the key factors that led to identifying the preferred alternative. The proposed plan includes information on the site history, site description, site characteristics, community participation, enforcement activities, past and present activities, the nature and extent of the contamination, and the reasonably anticipated future land uses at the site. Public comment is taken on the proposed plan. The Agency responds to the public comments, and then issues a Record of Decision, the cleanup plan for the site.

The ROD explains which cleanup alternatives will be used at National Priorities List sites. It contains information on site history, site description, site characteristics, community participation, enforcement activities, past and present activities, contaminated media, the contaminants present, description of the response actions to be taken, and the remedy selected for cleanup. The development of the ROD also includes consideration of how the site could be used in the future.

The EPA must develop a Proposed Plan for public comment. During this stage the EPA will:

1. Develop a Proposed Plan and publish public notice of the availability of the Proposed Plan and RI/FS, a brief summary of the Proposed Plan, and an announcement of the public comment period in the major local newspaper
2. Place the Proposed Plan in the information repository
3. Hold a public comment period
4. Host a Proposed Plan public meeting
5. Provide a meeting transcript
6. Provide a written Responsiveness Summary to respond to public comments received

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The EPA may have to address significant changes to the proposed plan prior to selection of the final remedy. If new information significantly changes the basis of the cleanup in the proposed plan, the EPA will:

1. Issue a revised proposed plan
2. Hold a public comment period on the revised proposed plan
3. Prepare a written response to significant comments
4. Publish a public notice of availability of ROD in newspapers

Sometimes after the proposed plan is developed, the companies or persons legally responsible for the contamination will negotiate and enter into settlement agreements, or consent decrees, with the EPA to do the cleanup. To conclude such negotiations, the EPA enforcement staff and the PRPs may make modifications to the proposed plan. If modifications are made, the EPA will:

1. Issue a public notice of the proposed agreement in the Federal Register at least 30 days before the agreement becomes final
2. Provide an opportunity for public comments and consideration of comments received

If significant changes must be made to the ROD with respect to the scope, performance or cost, the EPA must publish a notice that summarizes the explanation of significant differences in a major local newspaper, and make the information available to the public in the information repository. If fundamental changes to the ROD are necessary, the EPA will develop a proposed ROD amendment, issue a public notice through the local media to notify the community, and hold a public meeting to discuss the proposed changes and to take comments. The EPA then develops a responsiveness summary to formally respond to public comments received.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement related to the Proposed Plan and ROD**

- Inform the EPA about how the community wants the site to be used in the future.
- Read the ROD for cleaning up the site.
- Participate in any public events on the ROD.
- If you can't attend public events, visit the information repository and read the ROD and supporting documentation.
- Contact the CIC or RPM to ask questions or request more information.

## **2.5 Cleanup Design and Construction**

This phase of the process includes preparing for and doing the bulk of the cleanup at the site. The EPA develops the final design for the cleanup. Throughout this phase, the EPA community involvement staff will keep community members advised about the progress of the cleanup through periodic public events, newsletters, fact sheets, and presentations to civic groups, schools, and local leaders.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement during the Cleanup**

- Learn about the final design for the cleanup by attending public events or reading the information the EPA distributes.

- 
- Work through your CAG, TAG recipient, or Technical Assistance Services for Communities provider to stay informed about the progress of the cleanup.
  - Attend periodic public events about progress at the site. If you can't attend, visit the information repository and read site information.
  - Contact the CIC with questions or comments.
  - Visit the site to observe cleanup activities.

## 2.6 Construction Completion

This is the point in the process when any necessary physical construction needed for the cleanup has been completed (even though final cleanup levels may not have been reached), or when the EPA has determined that the site qualifies for deletion from the National Priorities List.

## 2.7 Operation and Maintenance/Five Year Reviews

This phase of the process ensures that Superfund cleanups provide for the long-term protection of human health and the environment. The EPA's activities during this phase will include operating and maintaining long-term cleanup technologies in working order, regularly reviewing the site (every 5 years) to be sure that the cleanup continues to be effective, and enforcing any necessary restrictions to minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination. Site reviews may include examining site data, inspecting the site, taking new samples, and talking with affected residents.

The EPA is required to notify the community and other potentially-interested parties that a Five-Year Review will be conducted at their site. Community members may be interviewed to get their views about current site conditions, problems, and concerns

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement related to the Post-Construction Completion**

- Work through your CAG or TAG to participate in and review the results of regular site reviews.
- Visit the site or arrange a site tour through the EPA.
- Invite the EPA CIC for the site to your community events to discuss results of the five-year review.
- Plan an event to celebrate major milestones in the cleanup of the site.



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## 2.8 National Priorities List Deletion

A site or portion of a site can be deleted from the National Priorities List when the EPA determines that no further response is needed.

When the cleanup has been completed and all cleanup goals have been achieved, the EPA publishes a notice of its intention to delete the site, or portion of the site, from the National Priorities List in the Federal Register and notifies the community of its availability for comment. The EPA then accepts comments from the public on the information presented in the notice and issues a responsiveness summary to formally respond to public comments received. If, after the formal comment period, the site or portion of the site still qualifies for deletion, the EPA publishes a formal deletion notice in the Federal Register and places a final deletion report in the information repository for the site.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement related to National Priorities List Deletion**

- Read the EPA's proposal to delete the site from the National Priorities List and submit your comments to the EPA.
- Read the EPA's responsiveness summary to find out how the Agency is addressing the public comments received.
- Read the final deletion report, which is available at the information repository.
- Plan a community event to celebrate deletion of the site from the National Priorities List.

## 2.9 Reuse

Once sites have been cleaned up, the EPA works with communities through an array of tools, partnerships, and activities to help to return these sites to productive uses. These uses can be industrial or commercial, such as factories and shopping malls. Some sites can be used for housing, public works facilities, transportation, and other community infrastructure. Some sites can be for recreational facilities, such as golf courses, parks and ball fields; or for ecological resources, such as wildlife preserves and wetlands. No matter what use is appropriate for a site, the community benefits from restoring the site to productivity, because the property can once again add to the economic, social, and ecological value of the community.

### **Opportunities for Community Involvement related to Reuse of the Site**

- Work with the EPA, your local government, and your neighbors to plan the redevelopment of the site.
- Explore the redevelopment tools and resources provided by the EPA (<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/recycle/tools/an.html>).
- Be supportive of redevelopment plans once they have been agreed upon.



## 3. Eagle Zinc Company Site Background

This section describes the Eagle Zinc site and summarizes the history of activities at the site.

### 3.1 Site Description

The 132-acre Eagle Zinc site is in a commercial/ industrial/ residential area in northeast Hillsboro, Montgomery County, Illinois (Figure 1). The site extends from Smith Road to an unnamed tributary to the Middle Fork of Shoal Creek. Industrial Park Drive extends north and south along much of the site's eastern boundary. On the north portion of the site, Brailly Road forms its western boundary. The site operated as a zinc smelter from 1912 to 2003. Other site operations included the production of sulfuric acid, **zinc oxide**, lead pigment, and metallic zinc.

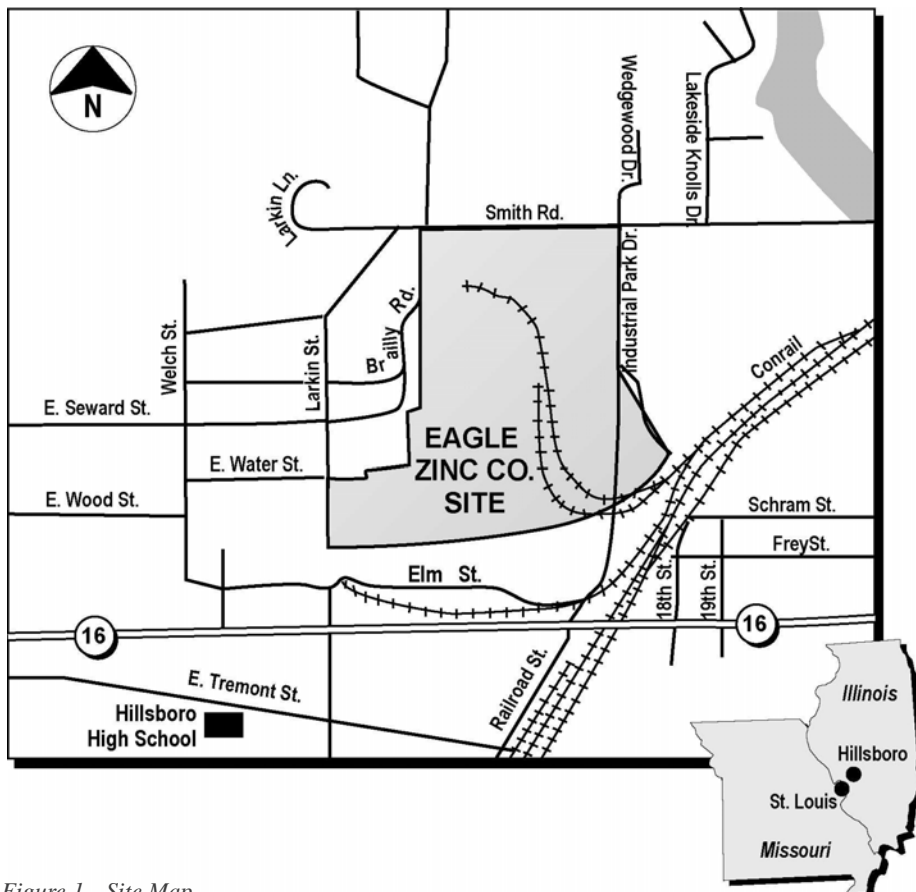
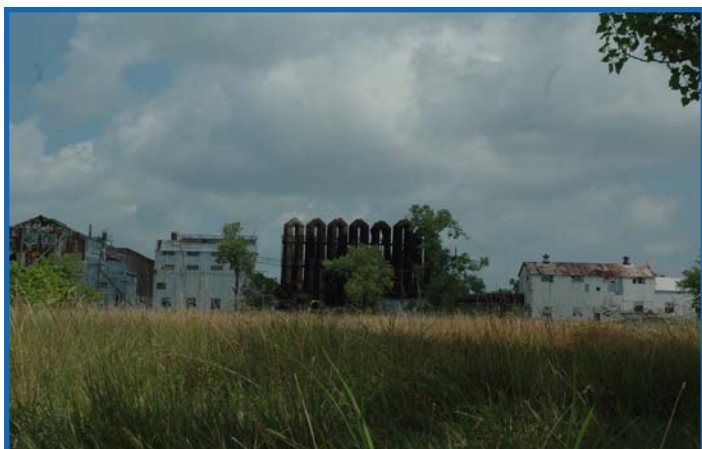


Figure 1—Site Map



Buildings formerly used for manufacturing operations occupy 20 percent of the site. The main buildings on the property include an office, laboratory, equipment storage building, furnace house, and a baghouse (where zinc product was recovered) (see photos above and to the left). The site currently is zoned industrial by the city of Hillsboro, and legal restrictions on the property limit future site use to industrial use. Local authorities have expressed interest in redeveloping the site.

A large pond that formerly provided water for site operations is located in the southwest corner of the site. There is a second pond on the southeast corner of the site.

The EPA often divides complex cleanup sites into smaller, more manageable sections called “operable units” or OUs. The Eagle Zinc site was divided into two OUs. OU1 covers the building demolition and on-site storage for the debris while OU2 focuses on contaminated soil, sediment (mud), ground water (underground supplies of fresh water) and surface water.

### 3.2 Site History and Cleanup

Between 1919 and 2003, the main manufacturing operation at the site was **zinc smelting**, a process which involves heating a mixture of coal and zinc ore in a rotary furnace until the zinc changes from solid to liquid. Ambient air is then mixed with the zinc vapor which results in zinc oxide, a white powder. The residue from this process was stored on the site in piles. The area west of the buildings was used for storing the smelting operation’s residue materials. Leftover material and **contaminants** from the manufacturing operations are concentrated in 15 piles, which are mainly located in the central and southern portions of the site.

Between 1919 and 1980, the site was owned and operated by Eagle-Picher Industries. In 1980, the site was purchased by Sherwin-Williams Company, which operated the facility until 1984. Eagle Zinc Company, a division of T. L. Diamond Company Inc., the current owner, operated the site from 1984 until 2003, when production operations ceased.

In 1984, 18,000 tons of waste material were removed under Illinois Environmental Protection Agency supervision. The site was added to the Superfund **National Priorities List** in September 2007.



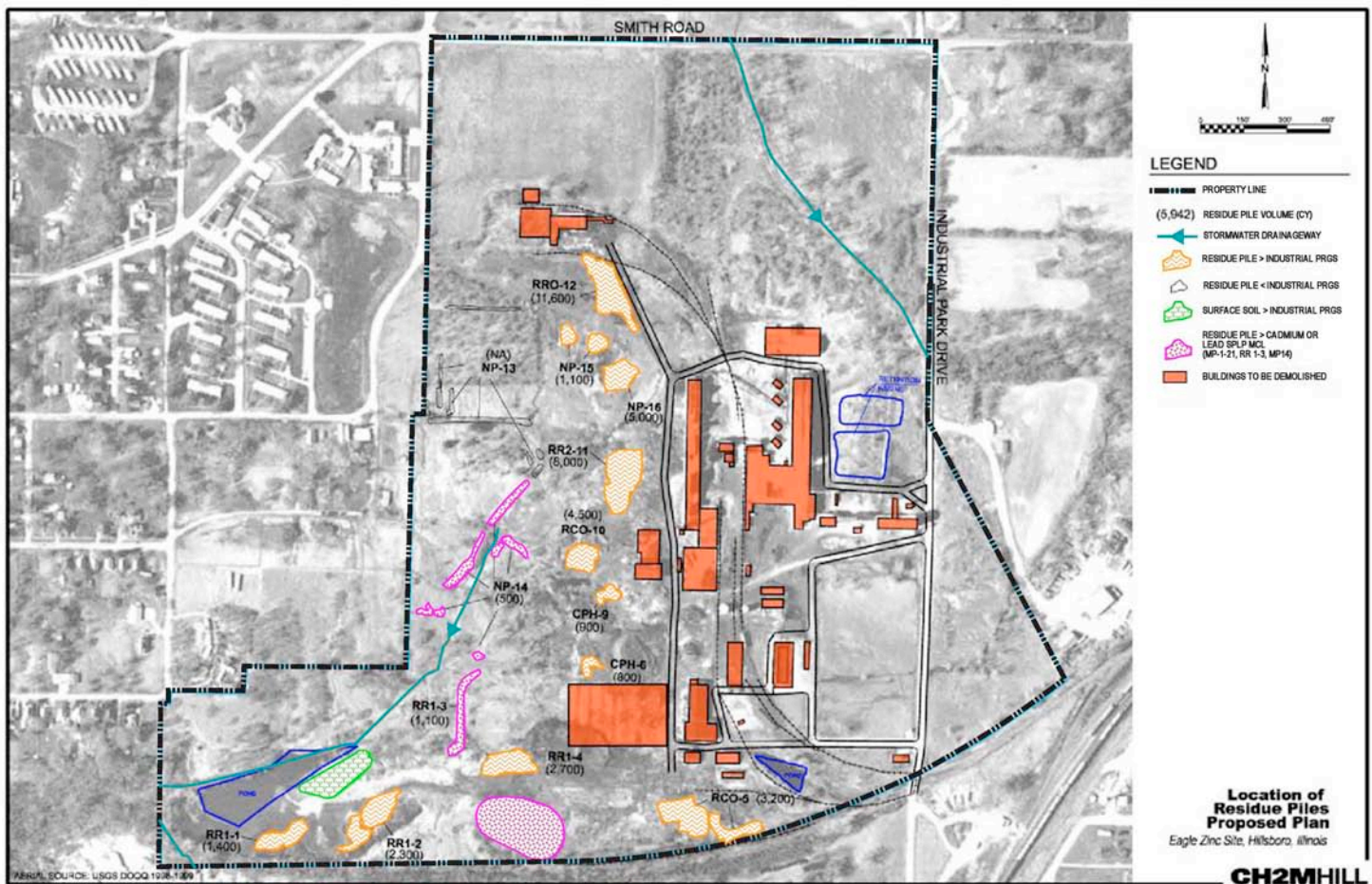


Figure 2—Site Map

Exhibit 2, on Page 2-5, presents a timeline summarizing the EPA’s involvement at the Eagle Zinc site. The IEPA has conducted several site assessments on and off the site, which have included soil and sediment sampling. The on-site soil sampling results have indicated elevated levels of zinc, lead, cadmium, and arsenic, all of which are defined as **hazardous substances**.

In December 2001, the EPA Region 5 signed a **consent order** with T.L. Diamond, Sherwin-Williams, and Eagle-Picher to investigate and assess the extent of any contamination at the site. The consent order is a legal document, approved and issued by a judge, which formalized an agreement reached between the EPA and the current and past owners of the Eagle Zinc site, whereby the owners agreed to perform all or part of a Superfund site investigation and cleanup. Under this order, T.L. Diamond and Sherwin-Williams agreed to investigate contamination at the site, and prepare a two-part report called a **remedial investigation and feasibility study**. Eagle-Picher’s contribution to the investigation was financial.

The remedial investigation and feasibility study were completed in 2005. The remedial investigation assessed the nature and extent of the contamination and any threat to public health, welfare, or the environment caused by the release or threatened release of hazardous substances, **pollutants**, or contaminants from the site. Samples were collected from soil, ground water, surface water, sediment, and on-site residual waste piles. These



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samples were collected in two phases; results were used to assess **risks to human health and the environment**. Based on the findings of the remedial investigation, the feasibility study described different options for addressing site contamination, and evaluated the effectiveness of each option.

In May 2008, IEPA conducted additional sampling surrounding the buildings and associated structures on the site. The results of the sampling event indicated high levels of lead contamination inside and around the buildings. The buildings posed a potential risk and, further, were at risk to fall down.

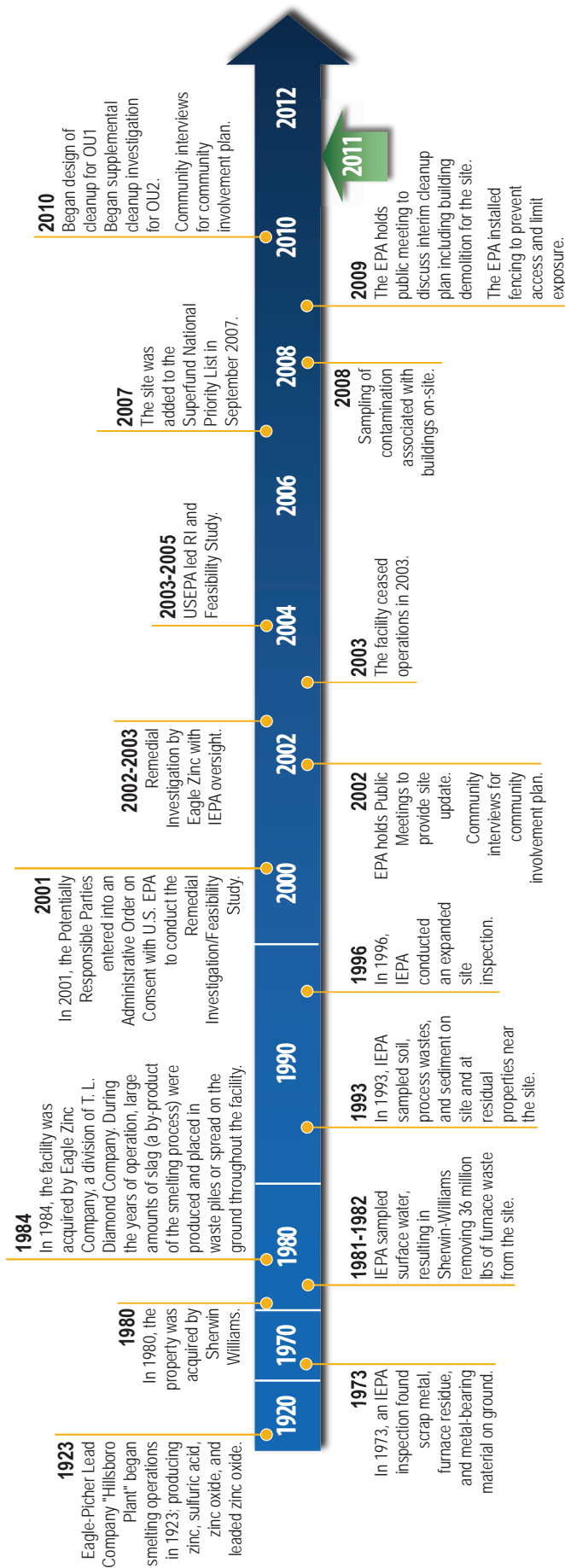
Lead exposure may cause a range of health effects, from behavioral problems and learning disabilities in children, to seizures and death. Children under age six are most at risk. Primary sources of lead exposure for most children are deteriorating lead-based paint, lead-contaminated dust, and lead-contaminated residential soil.

As a result, in 2009, the EPA, in consultation with IEPA, proposed an interim cleanup plan that included tearing down the buildings and other structures on the site and then covering the debris from the demolition with a foot of soil that would be managed on site until the EPA proceeds with the next phase of the cleanup. To restrict access to the buildings and exposure to the contamination, in January 2009, the EPA installed a fence around the structures on the site. Following the release of their interim cleanup plan, in May 2009, the EPA held a **public meeting** and comment period to solicit comments from the community on the \$1.9 million plan.



## EXHIBIT 2

### Timeline of the EPA Involvement at Eagle Zinc Site





## 4. Community Background

This section describes the Hillsboro community and summarizes the history of community involvement at the Eagle Zinc site.

### 4.1 Hillsboro Community Demographics

The Eagle Zinc site is located in the city and township of Hillsboro in Montgomery County. Located in south-central Illinois, the city of Hillsboro is approximately 50 miles south of Springfield and 65 miles northeast of St. Louis, Missouri.

According to the U.S. Census, the 2010 population of Hillsboro was 6,207 and Montgomery County was 30,104. This reflects a population increase for Hillsboro of 1,848 (about 42 percent) from the 2000 census and a slight decline in population (548 or about 2 percent) for Montgomery County.

According to the 2010 Census, the population of Hillsboro is predominantly white (84 percent), followed by African Americans making up 14 percent of the population. American Indian, Alaskan Native, and Asian comprise a total of 0.5 percent of the population with Hispanic or Latino of any race comprising approximately 3 percent of the population.<sup>1</sup>

According to the 2005-2009 American Community Survey census, the median age of Hillsboro residents was 39.6 years. Approximately 57 percent of the households in Hillsboro were family households with about 24 percent of families with children under 18 years of age. About 21 percent of the nonfamily households were made up of people aged 65 or older.<sup>2</sup>

About 6 percent of Hillsboro residents speak a language other than English at home, with 3 percent indicating they speak English “less than very well.” About 75 percent of the population 25 years of age or older have attained a high school diploma or higher; 11 percent of those have attained a bachelor’s degree or higher. About 34 percent of the population 16 years of age or older are in the labor force.



<sup>1</sup> Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census. 2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File, Tables P1, P2, P3, P4, H1.

<sup>2</sup> Hillsboro City, Illinois ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates: 2005-2009. Data Set: 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, American Community Survey



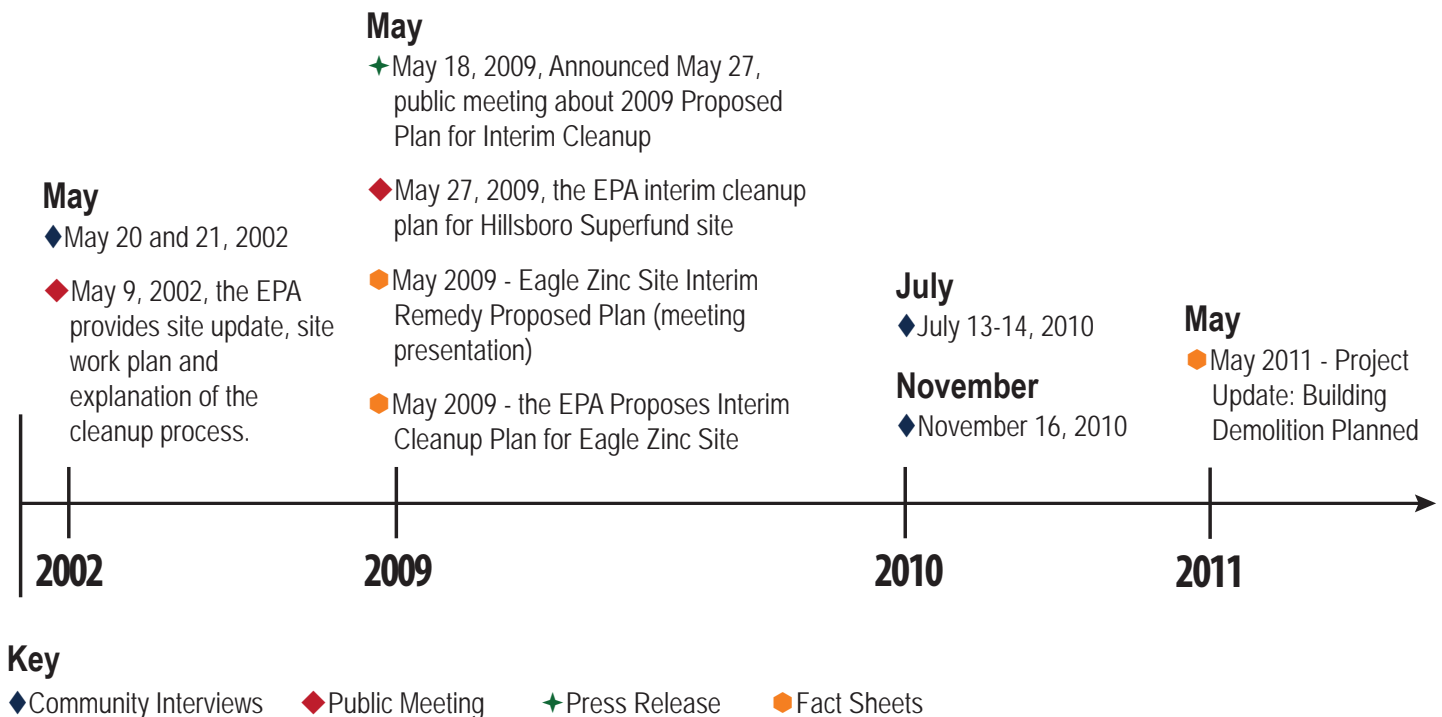
The 2009 estimated median household income was \$35,104 (in 2009 inflation-adjusted dollars), compared to \$55,222 in the state of Illinois for the same year. The 2009 per capita income was \$17,483. Approximately 8.7 percent of the population had incomes below the poverty level, compared to 12.4 percent in the state. Hillsboro residents are primarily employed in educational services; health care and social assistance; finance and insurance, real estate and rental and leasing; public administration; retail trade; and construction industries.

The area originally was populated by scattered settlements of Kickapoo Indians. European settlers started arriving after 1816, most immediately from nearby Bond and Fayette counties. Montgomery County was formed in 1821. Hillsboro, which is the county seat of Montgomery County, was incorporated soon after.

Hillsboro is a Mayor-Commission form of government. The mayor and commissioners are elected at-large to four-year terms of office. Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The Council is assisted by a Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, Police and Fire Commission, Police and Fire Pension Committees, Natural Resource Committee, and Library Board.

**EXHIBIT 3**  
*Site-Specific Community Involvement Efforts*

## Past Community Involvement at Eagle Zinc Company Site





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## 4.2 Past Community Involvement Efforts

Throughout the years, the EPA, the IEPA, and the Illinois Department of Health have conducted outreach activities associated with the Eagle Zinc site. Exhibit 3 summarizes site-specific community involvement efforts to date.

The EPA's community involvement efforts have included meeting with residents, conducting public meetings, publishing fact sheets, as well as issuing update letters and press releases. Site-related information can be accessed on the EPA's Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc>). Most recently, the EPA conducted interviews with residents and elected officials in July and November 2010 in preparation for compiling this revised CIP. Additionally, the EPA has established an **information repository** at the Hillsboro Community Library located at 214 School Street in Hillsboro. The repository contains site-related documents such as technical reports, sampling results, general information about the EPA and the Superfund program, public meeting transcripts, press releases, and other information. Repository documents are available for public review and photocopying during the library's hours of operation (Appendix B).

The community interviews conducted in July and November 2010 represent the EPA's continuing efforts to keep the community informed and solicit input. More detail on these interviews is in Sections 2 and 8 and Appendix E. Additional community involvement activities are discussed in Sections 2 and 8.





## 5. Detailed Summary of Community Interviews

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To learn about resident and community concerns regarding the site, the EPA held several community interviews in January 2003 and again in July and November 2010. The EPA talked with local officials and residents living and working near the Eagle Zinc Company site and asked them about various issues related to the contamination and cleanup at the site, and how the community involvement and communication processes could be improved.

Below are the specific questions the EPA asked and a summary of the answers that were provided at the community interviews.

*Note to the reader: This summary is intended to faithfully record and reflect the issues and concerns expressed to the EPA by residents, officials, and others on the days of the community interviews. By necessity, this is a collection of opinions, thoughts, and feelings. Therefore, please be cautioned that the statements contained in this section may or may not be factual, and that the opinions and concerns expressed may or may not be valid. Where questions are asked, the EPA's responses are provided in italics.*

### ***1. Have you ever worked at the site or know anyone who has?***

Several people interviewed stated that they had worked at the site – one had served as plant manager for Eagle Zinc and spent decades working on the site. Although most of those interviewed had not personally worked on the site most had friends or family members who had worked there.

### ***2. Have you been following activities at the site? If so, how long have you been following activities at the site?***

Everybody interviewed knew about the site, and generally considered it an eyesore and were hoping for a quick cleanup. Many were eager for the cleanup to be completed so that the property could be reused to stimulate jobs in the area. Some had intimate knowledge of plant activities and had seen recent media coverage about the site. Most people didn't know much about recent cleanup activities at the site – except for the installation of the fence around the site. A few people were aware and anticipating the railroad spur that was being added at the site.

### ***3. Are you aware of what activities took place at the site?***

Several people knew the specifics of plant operations and the various businesses that had operated on the site – read some of the anecdotes shared with the EPA in the “What the EPA Heard about the Site” box. Most people were somewhat aware

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of what activities took place at the site. Some people mentioned that people they knew had worked on the site had coughs or other respiratory problems and developed cancers – while others said that they knew people who had worked on the site for many years that were healthy and lived to old ages. Many were aware of more recent vandalism and thefts from the site, with several people specifically mentioning broken windows and the theft of copper.

**4. *Are you aware of any information regarding any off-site impacts and/or previous sampling?***

Most people were not aware of any information regarding any off-site impacts and/or previous sampling though some had seen noticed people on the site taking samples. The former mayor was aware of that sampling had been done, but he said it had been done so haphazardly that he couldn't keep track of it.

**5. *What are your current concerns about the site?***

Key concerns and questions shared with the EPA during the community interviews fell into several categories including potential health effects, effect on habitat, length of time for the cleanup process, environmental effects during site cleanup, site reuse plans, and the way information about the site is distributed. The community's specific concerns and questions are summarized in Section 6, Community Concerns and Questions.

**6. *How do you think the site, in its current state, poses a risk to you or area residents or children?***

Most people did not think the site poses a serious health risk, but several were concerned with dust blowing from the site particularly during cleanup activities and that the buildings on the site were in such disrepair that that they pose a risk to children and others who might trespass on the site. A couple of people wondered if the sulphur smell coming from the site indicated that they were breathing in something harmful or if gardens near the site pose a danger. Someone said that if the money for the cleanup doesn't benefit local people (with jobs) he does not want the site cleaned up.

**7. *What contacts have you had with government officials about the site?***

Most people have not had contact with state or government officials about the site, but they had talked to local officials, including the mayor. Some had spoken to the IEPA.

A couple of people mentioned that they would try to have contact with state representatives and senator so make sure to get funding for the cleanup and potentially for reuse of the site.

The former mayor had been in contact with the EPA's RPM for the site and felt that that person had been condescending. The mayor appreciated the new RPM working on the cleanup.

**8. *Do you feel local officials, and IEPA and EPA officials have been responsive to your concerns?***

A few people stated that the mayor or the IEPA has been responsive to their concerns. Several people said they were glad the EPA had taken over the site from the IEPA.



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***9. How do you feel about the way the information about the site is being distributed?***

Overall, people liked the way the information was being formally distributed. Someone suggested that the timeline for site activities be on the EPA's Web site. Someone else suggested that fact sheets be left at the library. See also Section 6, Community Concerns and Questions.

***10. Are you interested in receiving more information about the site?***

Overall, yes.

If yes, what kinds of information would you like from the EPA?

Information about the site, cleanup activities, and zinc oxide.

If yes, what is the best way to get that information to you? (newsletter, newspaper, e-mail, Internet, etc.)

The best ways people to contact the people the EPA interviewed are through e-mail, fact sheets, newspaper articles and ads. Someone cautioned the EPA that the Internet is not the best way to reach this community.

***11. Do you feel the site problems and events have been covered adequately by local, state, or regional media?***

Overall, yes; though some people hadn't seen anything in the media about the site. As the cleanup gets underway, it was suggested that more information be shared with the community.

***12. Where do you get your information about the site? Are there particular newspapers, radio or TV stations or internet sites that you prefer?***

Several people mentioned that they get a lot of information from "word of mouth" or at city council meetings or at other civic group meetings like the Masons.

The most commonly mentioned newspapers were the *Hillsboro Journal* and Montgomery County News. The most commonly mentioned radio station was WSMI. WICS, Channel 20 or Channel 5 news.

***13. How frequently do you think public meetings about the site should be held? Where is a good location for meetings? Would you attend?***

Most people said that meetings should be held when there is news to share or periodically to give site updates – no more than quarterly or two per year at the most was recommended.

City Hall, the High School or Elementary School, Knights of Columbus Hall, Lion or Moose Club and the Health Department were all mentioned as good meeting locations.

Most of those interviewed would attend future meetings.

***14. Are there other people or groups that you think the EPA should talk to about the Eagle Zinc Company site?***

Several people interviewed named someone they felt would be a good source of information about the site, including local businesses reps that have an interest in redevelopment of the site or public information sources, like the Director of the Health



Department or a representative from the Housing Authority. Former employees of Eagle Zinc were also suggested, including a former plant manager that the EPA was able to speak with.

***15. If it's possible, would you like to see the site redeveloped? What do you think would be an appropriate use of the site once it's cleaned up?***

The majority of people stressed that the community needs jobs and everyone said they would like to see the site redeveloped. Many suggested the site should remain industrial or commercial because to facilitate job growth. Someone said that if the land is cleaned up to residential standards, they would like the land to be used for houses. Others would like to see open space and trees.

### **What the EPA Heard About the Site**

***Got Milk?*** One person who worked on the site with zinc oxide from China said he reworked and repackaged the zinc oxide to say "Made in the USA." He and a few others the EPA talked to remembered those who came into contact with zinc oxide or lead on the site often experienced fevers, shakes/shivers and cold sweats called "metal shakes." Employees were advised to drink milk or take calcium to feel better.

***Reuse and Recycling*** – The EPA was told that valuable equipment including kilns, hoppers, fans and motors from the plant (worth a few million dollars) and other salvageable materials (bricks and metals like copper) were left on the site. The EPA was encouraged to reuse or sell the equipment to finance the cleanup. But, interviewees cautioned that much of the valuable (portable) items like the copper had been stolen or vandalized over the years. Someone said the office building on the site could have been saved – but because the cleanup has taken so long the office building has been vandalized beyond repair. Glassware from the site went to the chemistry classes at the Hillsboro High School. Although not an "approved" use of materials from the site, the EPA was told that fill materials for the driveways and yards of some local homes came from the site.

***When No One is Looking*** – Students from the high school said that some kids had spent the night on the site as a form of dare. They also knew that kids had broken windows on the site. Children in the area were known to ride their bikes over the "black hills" (piles of residue) on the site. Someone mentioned that he thought there was a "meth lab," a transportable laboratory used for the illegal production of methamphetamine on the site at one time and that he had seen the police on the site. Others said that valuable materials like copper were being hauled off the site. With the deteriorating condition of the buildings on the site, these behaviors are very risky and safety is a major concern. Someone said that prior to the fence being installed, the buildings were in such bad shape that metal was blowing off them into the adjacent street.

***Nothing Grows*** – The EPA was told by numerous people that nothing would grow near or on the site and that the trees on and adjacent to the site were stunted. Others told the EPA that a farmer who leased property from Eagle Zinc never was able to produce a crop and he later filed a complaint. People have tried to farm the area north of site but have not been successful. The corn north of the site has never grown over 2 ½ feet tall. The area north of site, currently the sports complex, was a horse racing practice track in the 1940s and an airfield. A horse, which died, had blood samples taken and analyzed. The results showed lead killed the horse.

## 6. Community Concerns and Questions

Key concerns and questions raised during the community interviews are summarized below. The EPA published a question-and-answer fact sheet to respond to specific questions asked during the interviews. The fact sheet was distributed to individuals on the site mailing list and is posted on the EPA's Web site ([www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc)).

*Note to readers: All attempts were made to accurately present the issues, concerns, and questions expressed to the EPA by residents.*



### 6.1 Potential Health Effects

Interviewees' opinions about the site's potential health effects were mixed. Many indicated they did not think the site posed a health risk to area residents; however, some expressed concern about the effects of the contamination on their health. Specific health concerns mentioned included concern about airborne particles as well as contamination migrating from the site through ground water as well as during high precipitation runoff events. There also was mention of concerns about contaminants in the ponds. Some noted that because the site is not fenced securely, there are trespassers to the site. For instance, children ride bikes around the site and on the "black hills," and there are concerns that they may be exposed to harmful materials. Similarly, other residents asked whether soil on properties adjacent to the site had been tested. They wanted to know whether contamination from the site had spread (or had the potential to spread) beyond the site.



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## 6.2 Effect on Habitat

Many interviewees' noted that trees that have been planted on the site are stunted and do not grow tall. One resident noted there have been attempts to farm the area north of the project site, but corn would not grow any higher than 3 feet. Many years ago, a farmer leased property from Eagle Zinc but was never able to produce a crop. Some expressed worry about runoff from the site going into the creek, and others voiced concerns about water quality impacts that may have occurred when the plant was operating.



## 6.3 Length of Time for Cleanup Process

Almost unanimously, those interviewed expressed concern about the length of time that has passed since contamination was first discovered at the site. They wanted to know when the EPA was going to clean up the site. One resident noted that it has been years since environmental agencies have been involved with the site yet nothing has been done.

## 6.4 Environmental Effects During Site Cleanup

Many interviewees expressed concern about release of airborne particles during demolition of structures. It was asked whether air quality samples would be taken during cleanup activities. Others asked how debris will be disposed of—whether it will remain on site and buried, or removed from the site. There also were questions as to whether anything could be salvaged from the site (for example, bricks from buildings) or whether everything had to be disposed of or buried.

## 6.5 Site Reuse Plans

Nearly everyone interviewed asked what would happen to the property after it is cleaned up and had opinions regarding the site's future use. Most stated that continued industrial or warehousing use would be most appropriate for the site, noting the community needs jobs. There were numerous comments that the site was an eyesore, and that cleaning it up and removing structures would be an improvement over current conditions.

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EXAMPLE SUPERFUND SITE SIMILAR TO EAGLE ZINC IN REUSE





## 6.6 Information Distribution

Most interviewees stated that both the state's and the EPA's activities at the site had been well publicized, although most also felt the agencies were dragging their feet when it came to cleaning up the site. A variety of ways of distributing information were recommended, including sending e-mail notices, newspaper articles, or meeting notices, as well as distributing newsletters or fact sheets (and making them available from City Hall and the library).





## 7. Comments from the Kids

Based on input from a mother of a young boy who passed the site regularly and often remarked at what an eyesore the site is, the EPA decided to get the schools involved in the community interview process. On November 15, 2010, the EPA interviewed students from Beckemeyer Elementary School, Hillsboro Junior High School, and Hillsboro High School to learn their perspectives regarding the Eagle Zinc site.

Some elementary students stated their parents had warned them to keep off the property. There was general consensus that the site was “pretty disgusting,” and many commented that all the trees on the site are dead. Many interviewees stated they did not know what had been done on the site to make it dirty/poisonous. Furthermore, many did not know what it meant that the site was contaminated – did it mean that a person should wear a gas mask if on the site?

Many of the students knew the plant had been a major employer in the area in the past. Students asked questions about how long the cleanup would take, as well as how contamination would be contained during demolition. Some asked what will be done with materials from the buildings, and whether things like scrap metal could be recycled. There were questions about whether contamination ended at the fence line on the property. One student questioned if houses cannot be built on the site, then why are there houses so close to the site?

Some students indicated they would like the future use of the site to be something that is open and accessible to everyone. Ideas for reuse of the site included recreational uses, a nature preserve, bike trails, and hunting preserve, to name a few. Others thought the community needed jobs to improve the economy, and that the site, therefore, should be used for future industrial use.







## 8. The EPA's Community Involvement Goals for the Eagle Zinc Company Site

U.S. laws and the EPA policy require that certain community engagement activities be conducted at designated milestones during the investigation and cleanup process. In addition, the EPA undertakes other activities to strengthen its communication with those affected by the contamination. A member of the the EPA community involvement staff has been designated to respond directly to media and public inquiries regarding site activities.

The goal of the EPA's community involvement efforts is to achieve early and meaningful input, as well as keep the community informed during the site cleanup process. To that end, the EPA is committed to:

- Encouraging and enabling residents to get involved
- Listening carefully to community concerns
- Taking the time needed to deal with community concerns
- Changing planned actions, where warranted, based on community input
- Keeping the community informed of ongoing and planned activities
- Explaining to the community what the EPA has done and why

The following activities are intended to provide opportunities for communication between the community and the EPA during the investigation and cleanup of the site.

### 8.1 Specific Community Involvement Activities

To address community concerns and questions described in Section 4, the EPA has conducted (or will conduct) the activities described below. Through these activities, the EPA's goal is to inform, involve and engage the community during site cleanup decisions and efforts.

- **Designate the EPA's Community Involvement Coordinator.** Ginny Narsete is the primary liaison between the EPA and the site community. Ms. Narsete serves as a point of contact for community members and fields general questions about the site. For technical site issues, Ms. Narsete coordinates with the EPA's remedial project manager for the site, Nefertiti Simmons.



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The EPA has designated two people as primary site contacts for local residents:

Ginny Narsete, CIC  
312-886-4359

Nefertiti Simmons, RPM  
312-886-6148

They can both also be reached toll-free at  
800-621-8431, weekdays 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

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- **Establish a toll-free number for residents to ask questions and receive information.** Ms. Narsete and Ms. Simmons can be reached at 800-621-8431, weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST. The goal is to improve the flow and ease of communication between the EPA and the community. Residents can call this number as questions or concerns arise, rather than waiting for a public meeting or waiting to receive written information. The EPA publishes this toll-free number periodically in the local papers and in all fact sheets.
- **Provide site information on the Internet.** Many of the persons interviewed have access to and are accustomed to using the Internet. Residents and officials whom the EPA met with during the community interviews said they would like to see site documents on the Web site.

*Information on the site will be provided on the following the EPA Web site:  
<http://epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc>.*

- **Create and maintain a site-specific mailing list.** The EPA has created a mailing list that includes all residences and businesses within an approximate 1-mile radius of the site and other interested parties who have requested to be kept informed about the site. To keep it current, the list is reviewed and revised periodically. The EPA uses the site mailing list to distribute written information such as fact sheets. This is a way to ensure that those who do not have access to the Internet or other information sources still receive information about the site.
- **Establish and maintain a site-specific information repository.** The EPA policy requires the establishing an information repository for any site where the EPA cleanup activities are being conducted. An information repository is a designated location (usually a library or other public building), which houses a file of site-specific documents and general information about the EPA programs. A site file found in an information repository typically includes legal documents, work plans, technical reports, and copies of laws that are applicable and relevant to activities at the site. Establishing an information repository makes the site-related information more accessible to the public.

The EPA has set up an information repository for the Eagle Zinc site at the Hillsboro Public Library located at 214 School Street. Many documents, plans, and other finalized written materials generated during the investigation and cleanup have been and will continue to be placed in the repository for review and/or photocopying by the public. The EPA will notify





community groups, local officials, and interested residents on the mailing list of their locations.

■ **Write and distribute news releases and public notices.** The EPA has released announcements to local newspapers, such as the *Hillsboro Journal* and *The Montgomery County News*; and local television and radio stations (Appendix D) to provide information about events such as public meetings or opportunities for public comment. News releases allow the EPA to reach large audiences quickly. They are posted on the EPA's Web site, [www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc). The EPA typically publishes news releases and public notices to announce major events such as comment periods, public meetings, and major milestones such as the selection of a cleanup remedy.

■ **Prepare and distribute fact sheets and site updates.** The EPA has produced fact sheets and update reports, written in non-technical language and distributed to coincide with site milestones (such as completion of the feasibility study). The EPA will continue to produce fact sheets and updates as site cleanup efforts progress. The EPA uses these written mechanisms to provide the community with detailed information in a relatively quick, simple, and easy-to-understand manner. In addition to being distributed to individuals on the site mailing list, fact sheets and site updates also are placed in the information repository and posted on the EPA's Web site, [www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc).

■ **Establish and maintain the Administration Record.** The EPA has created and placed the Eagle Zinc site Administrative Record at the Hillsboro Public Library and will update it as necessary. The Administrative Record provides residents with a paper trail of all documents the EPA relied on, or considered, to reach decisions about the site cleanup.

■ **Keep the CIP updated.** This CIP presents the EPA's plan to enhance community input and engagement in key decisions regarding the Eagle Zinc site. Before the cleanup is complete, the EPA may revise the CIP if the community's concerns or information needs change.

■ **Hold public meetings and hearings.** A public meeting provides an opportunity for the EPA to present specific information and a proposed course of action. The EPA staff is available to provide information and answer questions. A public meeting is not a formal public hearing where testimony is received. Instead, it might be a meeting to exchange information or comments. Public meetings provide community members with an opportunity to express their concerns to and ask questions of the EPA, state, or local government officials. In addition, the EPA holds informal open-house style meetings, called availability sessions, where residents can meet the EPA experts one-on-one to discuss the activities at the site. Public meetings or informal availability sessions may be held at various times throughout the investigation and cleanup process. Scheduling meetings should remain flexible to account for technical milestones and public interest. A public hearing is a formal meeting wherein the EPA officials hear the public's views and concerns about an the EPA action or proposal. There are specific regulations about when the EPA is required to consider such comments when evaluating its actions. Public hearings are recorded by a professional transcriber and become part of the administrative record. The comments also are posted to the Web.



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To make it convenient for local residents to view site-related information, EPA has placed site information at the project Web site

[www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc)

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The EPA held public meetings in May 2002 and May 2009 at Hillsboro High School to present site-specific information and solicit community input on a proposed course of action. In February 2010, the EPA's community involvement coordinator, Ms. Narsete, and remedial project manager, Ms. Simmons, informally met with City Council members to provide an update on planned and ongoing activities. The EPA will hold another formal public meeting when they finalize a **proposed plan** for the next phase of the cleanup. At this meeting, residents will hear a presentation from the EPA and will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments on the proposed plan. A verbatim transcript will be created and placed in the site information repository.

Additional meetings will be held as warranted, particularly after site milestone or in response to the community's request if feasible.

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The EPA may offer speakers to local organizations, business clubs, and schools as another means of communicating important information to local residents.

These meetings can be an effective, convenient way for the EPA to interact with the community, convey information, and solicit questions and input from targeted groups.

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- **Work with a Community Advisory Group on technical issues.** The EPA may work with or provide assistance to a CAG on technical issues. This can provide a way for the community to provide input on site technical issues and become more involved in the decision-making process. It also can provide a way for the EPA to explain, in greater detail, the site technical information. Furthermore, involvement with a CAG can provide a forum for the EPA and the various group members to discuss their concerns and learn from each other. Currently, no CAG is associated with the Eagle Zinc site.
- **Provide Technical Assistance Grant information.** TAGs provide federal resources for community groups to hire technical advisors who can help them interpret technical information about the site (such as sampling results or site investigation plans). The EPA will continue to provide information about the TAG program at public meetings and in site fact sheets and other written publications.
- **Maintain contact with local officials, community leaders, and residents through informal visits to the community.** The process of community interviews already has established an initial communications link between the community and the EPA. Furthermore, the EPA has designated the site community involvement coordinator as a contact person (Appendix D – EPA Representatives). Access to a contact person reduces the frustration that may accompany attempts to obtain information and communicate with the several agencies and organizations involved in the cleanup. The community involvement coordinator will continue to maintain contact with the appropriate local officials, community leaders, and residents to provide them the opportunity to address any issues that may arise during the investigation and cleanup at the site.

The community involvement coordinator and remedial project manager have made occasional visits to the Hillsboro area to meet with residents and local officials, and will continue to do so to keep community members informed about ongoing and planned site activities. Informal visits provide a forum for the EPA to interact one-on-one with individuals or small groups and respond directly to questions and concerns.
- **Solicit input during public comment periods.** The EPA holds public comment periods to give community members an opportunity to review and comment on key decisions. Before the EPA selects a final cleanup plan for the Eagle Zinc site, the Agency will hold a public comment period to allow interested residents an opportunity to review and comment on its proposed plan. The EPA will consider the community's input before selecting a final cleanup plan. The EPA's response to public comments will be summarized in a document called a responsiveness summary, which will be placed in the site information repository and made available on the EPA's Web site.



■ **Participate in meetings of local community groups.** The EPA may offer speakers to local organizations, business clubs, and schools as another means of communicating important information to local residents. These meetings can be an effective, convenient way for the EPA to interact with the community, convey information, and solicit questions and input from targeted groups. By attending previously scheduled community meetings, the EPA allows residents to participate without having to disrupt or change their schedules. The EPA may also conduct public teleconference calls, if warranted. The remedial project manager and community involvement coordinator may organize public teleconference calls to discuss important ongoing or planned technical milestones. The day, time, and agenda would be announced in sufficient time to allow residents to “sign up.” A preset number of dedicated “800” phone lines would be arranged for residents’ participation. Public teleconferences are one of many ways to allow a large number of residents to receive information, ask questions, and express their views without having to leave their homes or offices.

■ **Plan or participate in community events.** The EPA may participate in local festivals and special events during which the community involvement coordinator can meet with community members to discuss the Eagle Zinc site. Other community events that the EPA may organize or participate in include the following:

- **Ice cream social.** This informal event, held at a convenient location and time, could be used to attract families, especially those with children, who are interested in how the site affects them but would not attend a public meeting or formal event.
- **Site tours.** The community involvement coordinator or remedial project manager may organize site tours to allow community members to walk through and learn more about cleanup activities and plans for future site use.
- **Movie night.** To allow community members an opportunity to meet the community involvement coordinator and remedial project manager in an informal setting and learn about ongoing and planned site activities, a “movie night” could be planned for residents to gather and view an educational film on aspects of the site cleanup or general topics such as hazardous waste prevention. Community members also could have an opportunity to talk informally with representatives from the EPA, IEPA, or local organizations about environmental cleanup issues, potential health effects, site reuse, and other related topics of interest.





- Evaluate community engagement and outreach efforts and make adjustments as warranted. Throughout the site cleanup process, The EPA will assess the effectiveness of its efforts to implement the activities outlined in this CIP. The EPA may make revisions to its community outreach methods and approaches, and may implement additional activities not mentioned in this CIP, based on feedback from residents and local officials.

## 8.2 Timeframe for Conducting Community Involvement Activities

The following table presents the general timeframe for the activities described in Section 8.1.

Community Involvement Activities	Timeframe
Designate an EPA community involvement coordinator	Complete
Provide a toll free "800" number	Complete, Publish in written materials
Create and maintain a site mailing list	Complete, update as needed
Establish and maintain site information repositories	Complete, update as needed
Maintain contact with local officials, community leaders and residents	Ongoing
Write community involvement plan	Complete, update as needed
Provide site and Superfund information on the Internet	Ongoing
Establish and maintain the site administrative record	Complete, update as necessary
Coordinate with the office of public affairs on news releases	As needed
Prepare and distribute fact sheets or site updates	Quarterly or as needed
Hold public meetings and hearings	As needed
Public notices or newspaper advertisements	As needed
Evaluate communication efforts	Periodically throughout cleanup process
Encourage formation of a Community Advisory Group	Ongoing
Provide Technical Assistance Grant information	Ongoing
Make informal visits to the community	As needed
Solicit community input during public comment periods	When proposed cleanup plan is completed
Participate in meetings of local groups	As requested and feasible
Conduct public teleconference calls	As requested and feasible
Plan or participate in community events	Quarterly if feasible, or as warranted

## 8.3 Evaluating the Community Involvement Efforts

At key milestones during cleanup, the EPA will revisit its CIP for the Eagle Zinc site. Members of the community may be asked to provide input on the EPA's efforts to reach out to local residents and keep them engaged and involved in cleanup decisions. Based on community feedback, the EPA may make ongoing adjustments to its communication methods, as well as the frequency of communication, as warranted throughout the site cleanup process.

## Appendix A – Glossary

**Administrative Record.** The body of documents that forms the basis for the selection of a particular response at a site. For example, the Administrative Record for remedy selection includes all documents that were considered or relied upon to select the remedy through the record of decision.

**Cleanup.** Actions taken to deal with a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance that could affect humans and/or the environment. The term “cleanup” is sometimes used interchangeably with the terms “remedial action,” “remediation,” “removal action,” “response action,” or “corrective action.”

**Community.** An interacting population of various types of individuals (or species) in a common location; a neighborhood or specific area where people live.

**Community Advisory Group (CAG).** A Superfund community advisory group or CAG is a way for people in the community to participate in providing coordinated, local input to the decision-making process at Superfund sites. It is a forum for community members to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to Superfund cleanup projects. A CAG assists the EPA in making better decisions by providing the Agency a unique opportunity to hear and seriously consider community preferences for site cleanups.

**Community Engagement.** The process of involving communities in all phases of the cleanup process. Communities are asked to provide input on how the cleanup will be conducted and how it may affect community plans and goals. See also Community Involvement.

**Community Involvement.** The term used by the EPA to identify its process for engaging in dialogue and collaboration with communities affected by Superfund sites. The EPA community involvement approach is founded in the belief that people have a right to know what the Agency is doing in their community and to have a say in it. Its purpose is to give people the opportunity to become involved in the Agency’s activities and to help shape the decisions that are made.

**Community Involvement Coordinator.** The EPA official whose lead responsibility is to involve and inform the public about the Superfund process and response actions in accordance with the interactive community involvement requirements set forth in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.

**Community Involvement Plan (CIP).** A plan that outlines specific community involvement activities that occur during the investigation and cleanup at the site. The CIP outlines how EPA will keep the public informed of work at the site and the ways in which residents can review and comment on decisions that may affect the final actions at the site. The document is available in the site’s information repository maintained by the EPA. The CIP may be modified as necessary to respond to changes in community concerns, information needs and activities.

**Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).**

A federal law passed in 1980 and modified in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Commonly known as Superfund, CERCLA is intended to protect people’s health and the environment by investigating and cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the program, the EPA can either:

- Pay for site cleanup when parties responsible for the contamination cannot be located or are unwilling or unable to do the work; or
- Take legal action to force parties responsible for site contamination to clean up the site or pay back the federal government for the cost of the cleanup.

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**Consent Order (Administrative Order on Consent).** A legal agreement signed by the EPA and an individual, business or other entity through which the entity agrees to take an action, refrain from an activity, or pay certain costs. It describes the actions to be taken, applies to civil actions, and can be enforced in court. In limited instances it may be subject to a public comment period.

**Contaminant.** Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter that has an adverse effect on air, water, or soil.

**Contamination.** Introduction into water, air, and soil of microorganisms, chemicals, toxic substances, wastes or wastewater in a concentration that makes the medium unfit for its next intended use. Also applies to surfaces of objects, buildings and various household use products.

**Environmental/Ecological Risk.** The potential for adverse effects on living organisms associated with pollution of the environment by effluents, emissions, wastes or accidental chemical releases; by energy use; or by the depletion of natural resources.

**Feasibility Study.** Analysis of the practicality of a proposal (such as a description and analysis of potential cleanup alternatives for a site such as one on the National Priorities List). The feasibility study usually recommends selection of a cost-effective alternative. It usually starts as soon as the remedial investigation is under way; together, they are commonly referred to as the remedial investigation/feasibility study.

**Hazardous Substance.** Any material that poses a threat to human health and/or the environment. Typical hazardous substances are toxic, corrosive, ignitable, explosive or chemically reactive. 2. Any substance designated by the EPA to be reported if a designated quantity of the substance is spilled in the waters of the United States or is otherwise released into the environment.

**Hazardous Waste.** Byproducts that can pose a substantial or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly managed. Hazardous wastes usually possess at least one of four characteristics (ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity or toxicity) or appear on special EPA lists.

**Health Assessment.** An evaluation of available data on existing or potential risks to human health posed by a Superfund site. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry of the Department of Health and Human Services is required to perform such an assessment at every site on the National Priorities List.

**Information Repository.** A file containing current information, technical reports and reference documents regarding a site. The information repository usually is located in a public building convenient for local residents such as a public school, town hall or library.

**National Priorities List.** The EPA's list of serious uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites identified for possible long-term cleanup under Superfund. The list is based primarily on the score a site receives from the Hazard Ranking System. The EPA is required to update the National Priorities List at least once a year.

**Natural Resources.** Land, fish, wildlife, air, water, groundwater, drinking water supplies and other such resources belonging to, managed by, or controlled by the United States, a state or local government, any foreign government, any Indian tribe or any member of an Indian tribe



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**Pollutant.** Generally, any substance introduced into the environment that adversely affects the usefulness of a resource or the health of humans, animals or ecosystems.

**Proposed Plan.** A plan for a site cleanup that is available to the public for comment.

**Public Comment Period.** A formal opportunity for community members to review and contribute written comments on various EPA documents or actions.

**Public Meeting.** Formal public sessions that are characterized by a presentation to the public followed by a question-and-answer session. Formal public meetings may involve the use of a court reporter and the issuance of transcripts. Formal public meetings are required only for the **Proposed Plan** and **Record of Decision** amendments.

**Public.** The community or people in general or a part or section of the community grouped because of a common interest or activity.

**Remedial Investigation.** An in-depth study designed to gather data needed to determine the nature and extent of contamination at a Superfund site, establish site cleanup criteria, identify preliminary alternatives for remedial action, and support technical and cost analyses of alternatives. The remedial investigation is usually concurrent with the feasibility study. Together they are usually referred to as the remedial investigation/feasibility study.

**Superfund.** The program operated under the legislative authority of CERCLA that funds and carries out EPA solid waste emergency and long-term removal and remedial activities. These activities include establishing the National Priorities List, investigating sites for inclusion on the list, determining their priority, and conducting and/or supervising cleanup and other remedial actions.

**Stakeholder.** Any organization, governmental entity or individual that has a stake in or may be affected by the Superfund program.

**Technical Assistance Grant (TAG).** A TAG provides money for activities that help communities participate in decision-making at eligible Superfund sites. An initial grant up to \$50,000 is available for any Superfund site that is on the EPA's National Priorities List or proposed for listing on the National Priorities List and where a response action has begun. An additional \$50,000 may be provided by the EPA at complex sites.

**Work Plan.** Defines both data needs and the methods needed for the analysis phase. It includes project objectives, data requirements, assessment and measurement endpoints, sampling and analysis procedures, quality assurance objectives and procedures, and a work schedule.

**Zinc Oxide.** An inorganic compound that usually appears as a white powder, nearly insoluble in water. The powder is widely used as an additive into numerous materials and products including plastics, ceramics, glass, cement, rubber (such as car tires), lubricants, paints, ointments, adhesives, sealants, pigments, foods (source of zinc nutrient), batteries, ferrites, fire retardants, first aid tapes, etc.

**Zinc Smelting.** A process which involves heating a mixture of coal and zinc ore in a rotary furnace until the zinc changes from solid to liquid. Ambient air is then mixed with the zinc vapor which results in zinc oxide, a white powder.



## Appendix B – Site Information Repository, Administrative Record, and Public Meeting Locations

### Site Information Repository

The information repository is located at:

Hillsboro Public Library

214 School St.

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Phone: 217-532-3055

Fax: 217-532-6813

Library Hours: Mon. & Fri. 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.;

Tues. Wed., & Thurs. 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.;

Sat. 9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

You may also view site-related documents at: [www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc).

### Administrative Record

The site Administrative Record is located at:

Hillsboro Public Library

214 School St.

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Phone: 217-532-3055

Fax: 217-532-6813

Library Hours: Mon. & Fri. 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.;

Tues. Wed., & Thurs. 9:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

EPA Records Center

77 W. Jackson Blvd., 7th Floor

Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Telephone: 312-886-0900

Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

### Possible Public Meeting Locations

Hillsboro High School

522 East Tremont St

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Capacity: Cafeteria – 180-200 people  
Gymnasium – 1,200 people

Contact: Andy Sritzel, Vice Principal  
217-532-2841

Cost: No fee for weekday events. Weekend or  
holiday functions are subject to a fee of  
\$32.50/hour.

Hillsboro City Hall

P.O Box 556

447 S. Main

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Capacity: 50 people

Contract: Cheryl Whitten  
217-532-5566

Cost: No fee

Moose Lodge – Club Room

411 South Main St

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Capacity: 100-150 people

Contact: Patty Petcher  
217-532-3719

Cost: Donation (\$50 - \$100)

Hillsboro Lions Club

212 E. Fairground

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Capacity: 300 people

Contact: Midge Baker  
217-532-3297

Cost: \$100

Hillsboro Knights of Columbus

Hall Location Address:

11198 Illinois Rt. 185

Taylor, IL 62089

Hall Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 6

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Capacity: 400 people

Contact: John Eickhoff

Office: 217-532-5194

Cell: 217-710-0893

Historic Courthouse

PO Box 595

1 Courthouse Square

Hillsboro, IL 62049

Capacity: 100 people

Contact: Chris Daniels, County Coordinator,  
217-532-9577

Cost: No fee





## Appendix C – List of Contacts and Interested Groups

### Federal Elected Officials

Senator Richard J. Durbin  
Springfield District Office  
525 S. Eighth St.  
Springfield, IL 62703

Senator Peter Fitzgerald  
Central Illinois Office  
520 S. Eighth St.  
Springfield, IL 62703

Congressman John Shimkus  
Springfield District Office  
3130 Chatham Road, Suite C  
Springfield, IL 62704

### State Elected Officials

Governor Pat Quinn  
222 S. College, Floor 1  
Springfield, IL 62706

State Senator Vince Demuzio  
140 Carlinville Plaza  
Carlinville, IL 62626

State Representative Gary Hannig  
300 State House  
Springfield, IL 62706

### State Agencies

Rick Lanham  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 N. Grand Ave. East  
Springfield, IL 62702  
Phone: (217) 782-9881  
rick.lanham@epa.state.il.us

Damon T. Arnold  
Environmental Toxicologist  
Illinois Department of Public Health  
22 Kettle River Drive  
Glen Carbon, IL 62034  
Phone: 618-656-6680, ext. 170  
cccopley@idph.state.il.us

### Local Elected Officials

#### Montgomery County

Mike Plunkett  
Montgomery County Board District #4  
431 S. Main St.  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-3933

Jim Moore  
Montgomery County Board District #4  
317 Carrie St.  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532- 3557

Terry Bone  
Montgomery County Board District #4  
304 W. Third St.  
Coffeen, IL 62017  
Phone: 217-534- 6285

Ron Deabenderfer  
Montgomery County Board District #6  
117 E. Tremont  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-5139

John Downs  
Montgomery County Board District #6  
428 S. Hamilton  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-5546

Roy Hertel  
Montgomery County Board District #6  
210 E. Fairground Ave.  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
217-532-3957

Cindy Howard  
Director of Environmental Health  
Montgomery County Health Department  
11191 Illinois Route 185  
P.O. Box 128  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-2001  
Fax: 217-532-2089

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## City of Hillsboro

City of Hillsboro  
447 S. Main St.  
P.O. Box 556  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-5566  
Fax: 217-532-5567  
cityhall@cillnet.com

Mayor William Baran

Dave Booher - City Clerk

Dennis McCammack – City Commissioner (Public Works)

Connie Hill – City Commissioner (Public Safety)

Christopher Sherer – City Commissioner (Public Property)

Geoff Trost – City Commissioner (Accounts and Finances)

*\* Council meetings are held at City Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m.*

Gary Satterlee, Police Chief  
Hillsboro Police Department  
Phone: 217-532-6120

Joe Lyerla, Fire Chief  
Hillsboro Fire Department  
101 S. Broad  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-6129  
fireman@cillnet.com

## EPA

EPA Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590  
Phone: 800-621-8431  
[www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc](http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc)

Nefertiti Simmons  
Remedial Project Manager (SR-6J)  
Phone 312-886-6148 or 800-621-8431 ext. 6148  
simmons.nefertiti@epa.gov

Ginny Narsete  
Community Involvement Coordinator (SI 7J)  
Phone: 312-886-4359 or 800-621-8431 ext 64359  
narsete.virginia@epa.gov

## Information Repository

Hillsboro Public Library  
214 School St.  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-3055  
Fax: 217-532-6813  
Cheryl Sale, Librarian

EPA Region 5  
Record Center  
Ralph Metcalfe Building,  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Room 711  
Chicago, IL  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday



## Media – Newspapers

*The Montgomery County News*  
P.O. Box 250  
106 W. Seward  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-3929  
Fax: 217-532-3522  
thenews@mcleodusa.net  
Nancy Slepicka, Publisher

*Hillsboro Journal*  
431 S. Main St.  
Hillsboro, IL 62049  
Phone: 217-532-3933  
Fax: 217-532-3632  
Ron Deabenderfer, Reporter



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## Media – Radio

### WXAJ-FM

3055 S. 4th St.  
Springfield, IL 62703  
Phone: 217-241-5477  
Fax: 217-528-5348

### WIBI-FM

P.O. Box 140  
Carlinville, IL 62626  
Phone: 217-854-4800 or 800-707-9191  
Fax: 217-854-4810

### WAOX-FM/ WSMI-AM

Talley Radio Network  
P.O. Box 10  
Litchfield, IL 62056  
Phone: 618-635-6000 or 217-532-2085  
Fax: 217-532-2431

### KTRS-AM

638 W. Port Plaza  
St. Louis, MO 63146  
Phone: 314-453-5543  
Fax: 314-453-9807

### KMOX-AM

One Memorial Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
Phone: 314-621-2345  
Fax 314-444-3230

## Media – Television

### WICS-TV

2680 E. Cook St.  
Springfield, IL 62703  
Phone: 217-753-5620  
Fax: 217-753-5620

### WRSP TV

3003 Old Rochester Road  
Springfield, IL 62703  
Phone: 217-523-8855  
Fax: 217-523-4410

### KSDK-TV

1000 Market St.  
St. Louis, MO 63101  
Phone: 314-444-5125  
Fax: 314-444-5164

### KMOV-TV

One Memorial Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
Phone: 314- 444-6333  
Fax: 314- 621-4775

### KTVI - TV

5915 Berthold Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63110  
Phone: 314- 647-2222  
Fax: 314-644-7419





## Appendix D – List of Fact Sheets

May 2009 - Eagle Zinc Site Interim Remedy Proposed Plan (meeting presentation),  
[http://epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc/pdfs/eaglezinc\\_slides\\_20090527.pdf](http://epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc/pdfs/eaglezinc_slides_20090527.pdf)

May 2009 - EPA Proposes Interim Cleanup Plan for Eagle Zinc Site,  
[http://epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc/pdfs/eaglezinc\\_fs\\_200905.pdf](http://epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc/pdfs/eaglezinc_fs_200905.pdf)

May 2011 - Project Update: Building Demotion Planned,  
<http://epa.gov/region5/sites/eaglezinc/index.htm>



## Appendix E – Interview Questions

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### Community Interviews Questions (Adult – July and November 16, 2010)

1. Have you ever worked at the site or know anyone who has?
2. Have you been following activities at the site? If so, how long have you been following activities at the site?
3. Are you aware of what activities took place at the site?
4. Are you aware of any information regarding any off-site impacts and/or previous sampling?
5. What are your current concerns about the site?
6. How do you think the site, in its current state, poses a risk to you or area residents or children?
7. What contacts have you had with government officials about the site?
8. Do you feel local officials, and the IEPA and the EPA officials have been responsive to your concerns?
9. How do you feel about the way the information about the site is being distributed?
10. Are you interested in receiving more information about the site?
  - i) If yes, what kinds of information would you like from the EPA?
  - ii) If yes, what is the best way to get that information to you? (newsletter, newspaper, e-mail, Internet, etc.)
11. Do you feel the site problems and events have been covered adequately by local, state, or regional media?
12. Where do you get your information about the site? Are there particular newspapers, radio or TV stations or internet sites that you prefer?
13. How frequently do you think public meetings about the site should be held? Where is a good location for meetings? Would you attend?
14. Are there other people or groups that you think the EPA should talk to about the Eagle Zinc Company site?
15. If it is possible, would you like to see the site redeveloped? What do you think would be an appropriate use of the site once it is cleaned up?

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## Community Interviews Questions (High School - November 16, 2010)

1. Are you interested in environmental issues? What particular issues?
2. Do you worry about the environment? What things do you think or worry about?
3. Have you ever heard of the United States Environmental Protection Agency?  
Do you know what they do?
4. Have you ever visited the EPA's Web site for anything – like help on your school work? Now that you have seen the Web site, do you think you will?
5. Do you know what Superfund is?
6. Have you ever heard about the Eagle Zinc Superfund site?
7. Do you know anyone that ever worked at the site?
8. Do you know about the site cleanup?
9. Are you aware of what the businesses that owned the site used to do there that now requires a cleanup?
10. Do you have concerns (fears or questions) about the site?
11. Has anyone official ever talked to you about the site – maybe in an announcement or meeting?
12. What are your favorite radio and TV stations? Where do you get your news?
13. Have you seen anything about the Eagle Zinc site on TV – or heard about it on the radio?
14. Do you want to receive more information about the site?
  - i) If yes, what kinds of information would you like from the EPA?
  - ii) If yes, what is the best way to get that information to you? (newsletter, newspaper, e mail, Internet, etc.)
15. Once the site is cleaned up, if it is possible to be redeveloped, how would you like to see the land that the site was on used?
16. Are there other people or groups that you think might be interested in talking to the EPA about the Eagle Zinc Company site?

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## **Community Interviews Questions**

### **(Middle School - November 16, 2010)**

1. Are you interested in environmental issues? What particular issues?
2. Do you worry about the environment? What things do you think or worry about?
3. Have you ever heard of the United States Environmental Protection Agency?  
Do you know what they do?
4. Have you ever visited the EPA's Web site for anything – like help on your school work? Now that you have seen the Web site, do you think you will?
5. Have you ever heard of Superfund?
6. Have you ever heard about the Eagle Zinc Superfund site?
7. Do you know anyone that ever worked there?
8. Do you know about the site cleanup?
9. Do you have concerns (fears or questions) about the site or about the environment?
10. Has anyone official ever talked to you about the site – maybe in an announcement or meeting?
11. What are your favorite radio and TV stations? Where do you get your news?
12. Have you seen anything about the Eagle Zinc site on TV – or heard about it on the radio?
13. Once the EPA gets the site cleaned up, if it is possible to reuse the land, what would you like to see there?
14. Are there other people or groups that you think might want to talk to the EPA about the Eagle Zinc Company site?



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## **Community Interviews Questions (Elementary School - November 16, 2010)**

1. Do you worry about the environment? What things do you think or worry about?
2. Have you ever heard of the United States Environmental Protection Agency?  
Do you know what they do?
3. Have you ever visited the EPA's Web site for anything – like help on your school work? Now that you have seen the Web site, do you think you will?
4. Have you ever heard about the Eagle Zinc Superfund site? Do you know what a Superfund site is?
5. Do you know about the site cleanup?
6. Do you have concerns (fears or questions) about the site or about the environment?
7. Has anyone official ever talked to you about the site – maybe in an announcement or meeting?
8. Where do you get your news about the world or what is going on in Hillsboro?
9. Have you seen anything about the Eagle Zinc site on TV – or heard about it on the radio?
10. Once the EPA gets the site cleaned up, if it is possible to reuse the land, what would you like to see there?